From: Ron Skoog

To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'

Date: 1/24/02 5:01pm **Subject:** microsoft settlement

In my opinion the proposed settlement with Microsoft does nothing to restrain the anti-competitive nature of their business practices. A similarly ineffective settlement was attempted in the early 1990s and did nothing to curb Microsoft. This company is infamous for it's twisting of any legal agreement to mean what it wants. If the settlement is not explicit and capable of easy monitoring Microsoft will simply force any future disagreements into court in order to delay any decisions and in the hopes of overturning parts of the settlement.

The settlement with Microsoft should be as strict as what IBM had, and still has, to comply with. Microsoft needs to be partitioned into distinct divisions and all information passed between the divisions must be available to outside companies. This would force the disclosure of the operating system and application APIs to companies that are trying to write products that interface with Microsoft products.

The divisioning of Microsoft should be into two operating systems divisions: home and corporate, an applications division, a networking division, and a home appliance or embedded systems division.

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